

REPRESENTING ANSONIA, BEACON FALLS, BETHANY, DERBY, HAMDEN, NAUGATUCK & WOODBRIDGE

YOUR STATE SENATOR **Joe Crisco**



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Growing Jobs in Woodbridge

The New England Brewing Company in Woodbridge is among a growing number of companies participating in the state's Small Business Express program using seed money provided by the state to improve operations, hire new employees, and expand its business. While on a recent tour, I learned how an automated filling line—purchased with the help of the Small Business Express program—transformed a days-long, labor-intensive process into an efficient, modern operation. This economic development initiative has also created three local full-time jobs and an imminent move into much larger quarters just across the street.

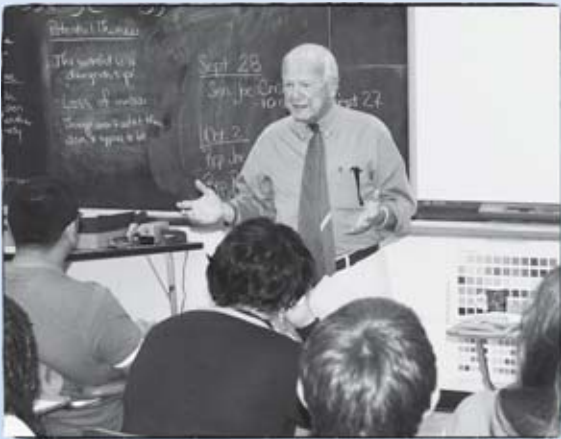


Local Biomedical Science Rewarded

I recently met with Frank Volvovitz and Chris Conrad, Ph.D., of Biomedisyn in Woodbridge to learn about the innovative work they are doing in researching and developing future biomedical treatments ranging from the prevention and treatment of schizophrenia and neurological complications accompanying HIV/AIDS to protecting our troops from nerve agent attacks. The small business was recently awarded a grant from Connecticut Innovations to advance its research. I have championed the field of medical research in the state and helped to establish the state's Biomedical Research Trust Fund.

Tech Grants Bolster Curriculum

Six local school districts recently received state funding for technology improvements to connect classrooms and help educators deliver this new, computer- and Web-based means of teaching as part of the Common Core curriculum. The interactive nature of the process will allow students to advance based on their own ability, and more accurately measure what they know and how they're able to apply that knowledge.



Improving Safety on Route 34

There is continuing progress on traffic safety improvements for Naugatuck Valley residents who use heavily traveled Route 34. DOT officials are working collaboratively with the Town of Seymour and the area's legislative delegation to make the intersection of Routes 188 and 34 safer for motorists. The DOT has prepared a conceptual site improvement plan along with suggested, shorter-term improvements for town officials to consider. Traffic signs have already been replaced in the area and road striping repainted. Installation of a traffic light is under consideration as well as enhanced speed enforcement, including the possibility of rumble strips.

Update from Joe Crisco

Committed to Economic Recovery

At the beginning of the global economic recession, Connecticut economists predicted a very slow recovery. At the State Capitol, we took action. During the last three legislative sessions and the 2011 October Special Session on Jobs, we passed historic, bipartisan, job-creating bills.

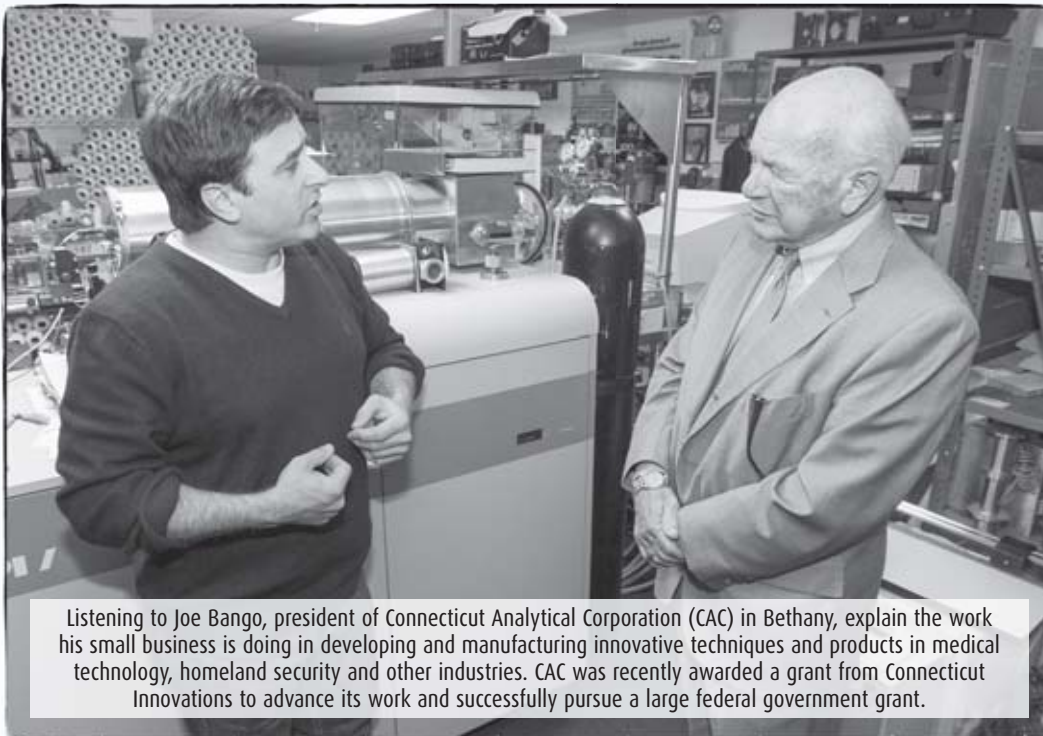
We launched and then expanded programs to help thousands of small and medium-size businesses. For example, the **STEP-Up** and **Small Business Express** programs—which so far have assisted nearly 850 firms to create or preserve almost 12,000 jobs—offer job-training support for veterans and the unemployed and low-interest loans and state grants for small businesses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we have created more than 41,000 private-sector jobs since 2011.

Resources to Grow Jobs

- **Job Expansion Tax Credits** for small businesses: www.decd.org
- **Small Business Express** to get funding for your small business: tinyurl.com/SmallBizXpress, or contact Michelle Peters at 860-270-8052 or Michelle.Peters@ct.gov.
- **STEP-Up** (Subsidized Training & Employment Programs) provides worker training subsidies for small businesses and small manufacturers: www.stepct.com
- **Connecticut Reemployment Portal** if you have recently lost a job and are looking for work: www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/CTReP
- **Job & Career ConnectiOn** for details on job and training programs: www.ctjobandcareer.org

To learn more about job growth in Connecticut, visit: www.senatedems.ct.gov/GrowJobs



Listening to Joe Bango, president of Connecticut Analytical Corporation (CAC) in Bethany, explain the work his small business is doing in developing and manufacturing innovative techniques and products in medical technology, homeland security and other industries. CAC was recently awarded a grant from Connecticut Innovations to advance its work and successfully pursue a large federal government grant.



Talking with #1 Fish Market owner Bobby McNeil about how the Hamden seafood store is growing and hiring new workers as a result of a state Small Business Express grant and loan.

Support for Local Businesses

Locally, many businesses in the communities I represent are utilizing important programs like STEP-Up and Small Business Express to preserve and create jobs, including:

Ansonia: Coordinated Transportation Solutions, CKS Business Group, Eric & Sly Subs, Ralph Mann & Sons, Subconscious Investment Group, Tim's Enterprises, Grohe Manufacturing Solutions • **Beacon Falls:** Fitzgerald Automotive
Derby: Environmental Management Consultants, Smoke & Bones, Empire Tool
Hamden: Creative Improvements, Connecticut Framers, Popeyes Chicken, Taylor Freezer of Connecticut, The Carrot Patch, R. Eugene Torrenti, The Smart Start Preschool & Learning Center, Derie Currie Insurance Agency, Diversified Technology Consultants, #1 Fish Market, The Shore Thing
Naugatuck: Valley Floor Covering, Stacey Ferrari, Electronic Service Products, Con-Tec Inc., Electric Cable Compounds, RAM Welding Company, SAF Industries, The Original Curb People, Sugar Mountain Enterprises, Hospital Marketing Services
Woodbridge: BNS Staffing, J&J Family Home Health Care, New England Conservation Services, ProDental Billing, The Write Approach, Relihan Landscape Construction Company, Burnt, New England Brewing Company

Children's Mental Health

Following the Newtown tragedy, Democrats and Republicans came together to improve Connecticut's mental health care system, with a particular focus on the well-being of children.

The new law implements a strong, comprehensive, integrated system of care. It identifies strategies for reducing the long-term negative impact of mental, emotional and behavioral health issues on children. It promotes early identification and intervention, and ensures access to developmentally appropriate services to help treat children earlier. It also created a Children's Mental Health Task Force to study the effects of nutrition, genetics and medication on our youngsters.



Stamping Out Price Gouging



In light of recent severe hurricanes and historic snowstorms that have battered Connecticut, members of the public have been vulnerable to price gouging by shady service providers for snow removal, flood abatement, roof raking and lodging. That is why we expanded consumer protections by prohibiting price gouging for services that are essential for the health, safety and welfare of consumers in the aftermath of severe storms. This will be a deterrent to exploitative business owners and will protect consumers from predatory practices.

For more information about how to report price gougers contact the **Department of Consumer Protection** at 860-713-6300 or visit www.ct.gov/dcp.